

**U.S. House and Senate Notification**  
**Wednesday, March 31, 2010**

**To:** Congressional Health Staff

**From:** Amy Hall  
Director, Office of Legislation  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

**Subject:** PPACA Implementation

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is working to expeditiously implement many of the provisions required by the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)*. Instructions have been released to our contractors today to implement the following provisions:

**Medicare Home Health Rural Add-on**

Section 3131(c) of the PPACA creates a 3% add-on to payments made for home health services to patients in rural areas. The add-on applies to episodes ending on or after April 1, 2010, through December 31, 2016. Similar to temporary rural add-on provisions in the past, claims that report a rural state code as the Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) code for the beneficiary's residence will receive the additional 3% payment.

**Timely Filing Requirements for Medicare Fee-For-Service Claims**

Section 6404 of the PPACA amended the timely filing requirements to reduce the maximum time period for submission of all Medicare FFS claims to one calendar year after the date of service.

Under the new law, claims for services furnished on or after January 1, 2010, must be filed within one calendar year after the date of service. In addition, Section 6404 mandates that claims for services furnished before January 1, 2010, must be filed no later than December 31, 2010.

The following rules apply to claims with dates of service prior to January 1, 2010:

- Claims with dates of service before October 1, 2009, must follow the pre-PPACA timely filing rules.
- Claims with dates of service October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, must be submitted by December 31, 2010.

Section 6404 of the PPACA also permits the Secretary to make certain exceptions to the one-year filing deadline. At this time, no exceptions have been established. However, proposals for exceptions will be specified in future proposed rulemaking.

If you have any questions about this notification, please contact the CMS Office of Legislation. Thank you.